

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on Tuesday, February 26, 2002, and I would like the record to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 39, the bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for the acceptance of an affidavit of support from another eligible sponsor if the original sponsor has died and the Attorney General has determined for humanitarian reasons that the original sponsor's classification petition should not be revoked, I would have voted "yea."

For rollcall vote No. 40, the resolution expressing sympathy to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo who were tragically affected by the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano on January 17, 2002, and supporting an increase in the amount of assistance provided by the United States to the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo I would have voted "yea."

### RETAINING A STRONG AND HEALTHY STEEL INDUSTRY IN U.S. IS A MUST

#### HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the President for initiating his three-prong program to address the steel import crisis. This crisis, caused by a worldwide over capacity of steel making is slowly destroying our domestic steel industry. The increased level of imports, often subsidized by foreign governments, keeps driving steel prices down. Not even the most efficient steel mills in the U.S. are able to make money when steel is priced so low. As of this week, thirty-one steel companies have declared bankruptcy and over fifty steel-making and related plants had been shut down.

The President's steel plan includes the Section 201 investigation initiated last June and efforts to negotiate a reduction of worldwide steel making capacity with foreign nations. The key element in the President's plan is the 201 investigation. The International Trade Commission (ITC), which completed the 201 investigation last fall, unanimously found that the level of steel imports coming into the U.S. was injuring the domestic steel industry. Now it is up to the President to implement a meaningful remedy. The industry and its workers are asking for at least 40 percent tariffs across the board. Tariffs would provide the most immediate relief to the industry allowing prices to

recover. Tariffs would also send a clear message to our trading partners that this U.S. is not the dumping ground for all the world's excess steel.

Our steel companies need a "time-out" from the constant flow of low-priced imports. Strong tariffs will provide such a "time-out." Domestic steel companies and their workers have downsized and restructured and they continue to do so. One example is Republic Technologies International, which has facilities in my Congressional District. Republic had to file for bankruptcy protection. In order to keep operating in this very difficult market, all workers had to take a 15 percent pay reduction and additional cost cutting measures are being implemented to reduce costs another 20 percent. Overall employment has fallen by 20 percent recently. The type of 201 remedy will directly impact how Republic will be able to restructure and come out of bankruptcy. If the President implements a strong remedy, investor confidence will increase and Republic will be able to preserve more jobs as it restructures. If the President imposes a weak remedy, Republic may face significant job cuts during its restructuring.

As steel mills close, it is not just the steelworkers and their families that suffer. Steel company retirees will lose their retiree health benefits in many instances. Furthermore, every steelworker supports more than three jobs in other industries, from workers who make production equipment to those who process raw materials and move the steel products to market. Steel communities are also impacted by the loss of steelworker jobs because people buy less groceries and use less services. It is imperative that we retain a strong and healthy steel industry in the U.S. not only for our economic well-being but also to supply our national defense needs.

### IN SUPPORT OF INTERNATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING FUNDING

#### HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the Administration's decision to withhold funds already appropriated for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

Last year, after extensive negotiations between Congress and the Bush Administration, Congress passed and the President signed the FY02 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill, including \$34 million for UNFPA.

The decision to withhold funding from this vital program was founded on the mistaken belief that UNFPA supported forced abortion in China.

This decision is part of a disturbing trend of anti-choice opposition within the Administration to any type of family planning funding. This funding is vital to women's health and vital to sustainable international development, and the

President should reverse this decision immediately.

I would like to remind my colleagues that since 1973 no U.S. dollars have been used to pay for the performance of an abortion as a method of family planning or for involuntary sterilizations overseas—none.

Turning UNFPA funding into a debate about abortion does a disservice to the millions of women throughout the world who do not have access to the health care and reproductive services, education and treatment that is available to women in this country.

The World Health Organization estimates that close to 600,000 women die each year of causes related to pregnancy or childbirth. Three hundred fifty million women in developing countries don't have access to safe and effective family planning methods. More than 600,000 infants become infected with HIV each year worldwide. These statistics are appalling. How can we possibly claim to be working to prevent the spread of HIV if we do not offer counsel and education in family planning?

UNFPA is the largest international source of population assistance to developing countries, often working in countries where few others go, such as Vietnam. UNFPA does not fund abortion in China and its program there is rigorously monitored to ensure that it does not support coercion in any form.

We cannot allow yet another issue to get caught up in abortion politics. We have the chance to really make a difference for millions of women worldwide. Let's give women the opportunity to make informed and educated decisions about their reproductive health. Mr. President, reverse the decision to withhold UNFPA funds.

### INTRODUCTION OF THE PAUL REVERE FREEDOM TO WARN ACT

#### HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2002*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere bravely went out into the Massachusetts night to warn his fellow patriots of a threat they faced.

The tyranny of the time dictated that if caught, Paul Revere would be hanged; he rode that night knowing that if caught, he would die.

Today we have other Americans who take risks that are just as real to preserve our liberty. These brave men and women risk their jobs, their livelihoods, to ensure our safety. They are fighting for us. And so the least we can do is fight for them.

I didn't come here to Washington to fight for the special interests. I came here to make sure the little guy was protected.

In today's climate, we face new threats, threats of life and death. And despite these threats, there are still powerful interests that

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.